

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A telecommunications system, comprising:
a packet switched network;
one or more telephony devices coupled to said packet switched network, said one or more telephony devices configured to communicate using one or more coding algorithms; and
a bandwidth allocation server configured to cause a renegotiation of which of said coding algorithms said one or more telephony devices communicates while said one or more telephony devices are communicating using a predetermined coding algorithm

10 2. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, said
11 packet switched network being H.323 compatible.

3. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, said bandwidth allocation server configured to initiate said renegotiation if one or more existing connections have a QoS level which may be altered.

4. A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, said bandwidth allocation server configured to initiate said renegotiation if a level of data traffic exceeds a predetermined threshold.

1 8
2 5. A method for operating a telecommunication system,
3 comprising:
4 monitoring network usage; and
5 changing codec speed for one or more ongoing connections
based on said monitoring network usage.

6. A method according to claim 5, including determining whether an existing connection has a lower quality of service (QoS) than another connection, and changing said codec speed for said existing connection responsive to said determining.

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7. A method according to claim 5, including determining whether data traffic on said network has exceeded a predetermined threshold.

8. A telecommunications device, comprising:
means for establishing a connection with another telecommunications device using a first coding algorithm; and
means for changing said communication from said first coding algorithm to a second coding algorithm.

9. A telecommunications device according to claim 8, including means for directing said another telecommunications device to renegotiate coding algorithm from said first to said second coding algorithm.

10. A telecommunications device according to claim 8, said changing means including means for monitoring network usage.

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11. A telecommunications device according to claim 10, wherein said monitoring means monitors network usage for levels of data traffic.

12. A telecommunications device according to claim 10, wherein said monitoring means monitors network usage for actual and requested quality of service (QoS) levels.

13. A telecommunications device according to claim 12, wherein said changing means changes from said first coding algorithm to said second coding algorithm if said connection has a lower QoS than another connection.

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